BLABY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

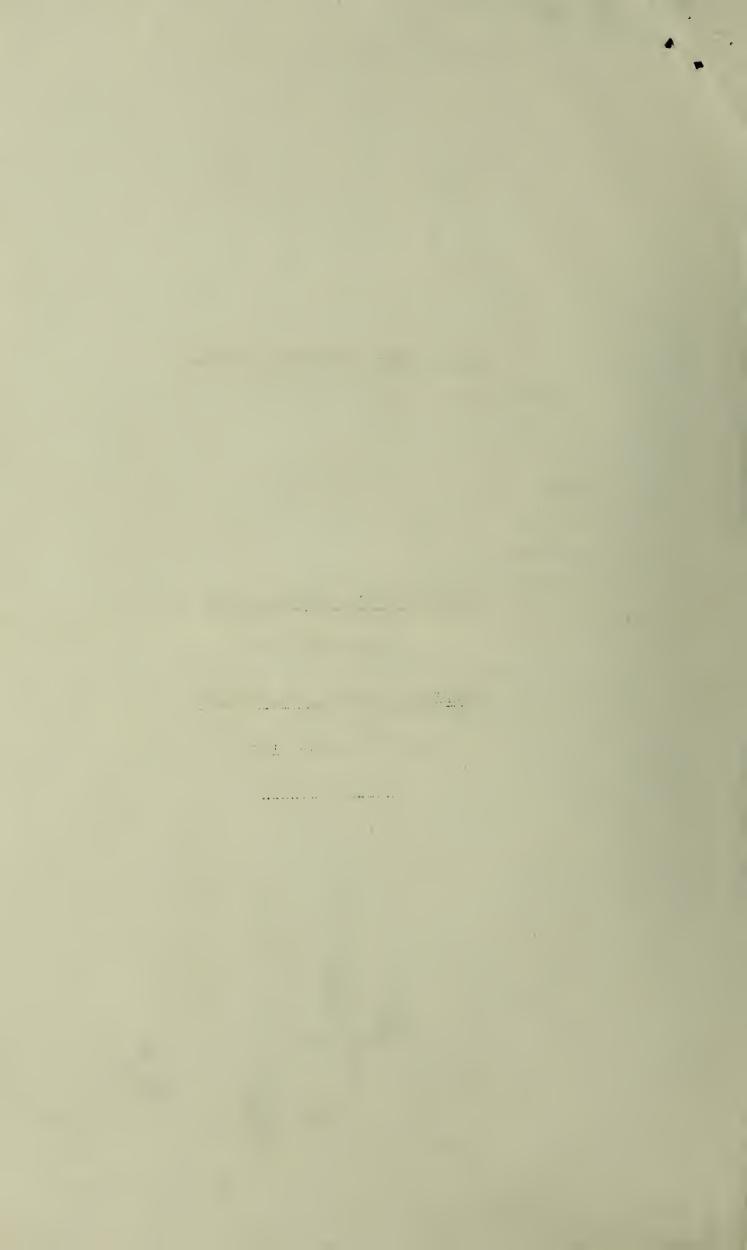
ANNUAL REPORT

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of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1938.



BLABY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1938.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present my thirty-seventh Annual Report on the Health of your District.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Population Censu	s 1921	• •	• •	• •	16,565
Population Censu	s 1931	• •	• •	• •	32,764
Estimated Popula	tion 1938	(Mid-y	ear)	• •	33,090
Inhabited houses	, 31st Dec	ember	• •	••	10,143
Rateable value	••	• •	• •	• •	£150,012
Sum represented	by a penny	rate	• •	• •	£600

Social Conditions.

Although the District is largely agricultural, most of the land being grazed, there is, in addition to the quarrying industry, a large number of Boot & Shoe and Hosiery Factories in the larger villages. The district is moreover residential for a number of persons employed in the City of Leicester. The population of the District having more than doubled since 1921, underwent a considerable reduction on 1st April 1935, owing to extension of the boundary of the City of Leicester. On 1st April 1936, it was increased by the transfer of six parishes from the Hinckley Rural District, while the parish of East Wigston was transferred to the Wigston Urban District.

Vital Statistics.

	Totals.	200	200		
	Totals:-	236	236		472
tf	illegitimate	M. 6	F. 4	Total	10
Births	, legitimate	M. 230	F. 232	Total	462

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Birth-rate for England & Wales	••		15.1
Still-births: Legitimate 22.	Illegitima	ate 1.	Total 23
Deaths: Males 140.	Females 12	29.	Total 269
Crude Death-rate	• ••		8.1
Comparative Death-rate (i.e. al	lowing for		
Death-rate for England & Wales	• •	distributi	11.6
Deaths of Infants under one yea	r of age (a	all legitim	ate) 12
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000	births	••	25
Infant Mortality Rate for Engla	nd & Wales	• • • •	53
Causes	of Death.	Mal o	Wama la a
All Causes.		Males. 140	Females.
	• ••	1	1
	• ••	2	1
Cerebro-spinal fever	• • •	1	1
Respiratory tuberculosis .	• ••	4	1
Other tuberculosis	• ••	1	1
Cancer, malignant disease .	• ••	20	29
Diabetes		1	-
Cerebral haemorrhage etc	• ••	12	13
Heart disease		17	21
Aneurysm		2	-
Other circulatory diseases .	• ••	11	12
Bronchitis	• ••	8	4
Pneumonia (all forms)		2	1
Other respiratory diseases .	• ••		1
Peptic ulcer		4	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .			_
Amman 33 a 5 k 5 a	• ••	1	2
Cimple sie of the lines	•	2	
Other lines discuss			1
other liver diseases	•	-	

Birth-rate

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Causes of Death (Continued)

				Males.	Females.
Other digestive diseases	• •	• •	• •	3	2
Nephritis	• •	• •	• •	4	2
Puerperal sepsis	• •	• •	• •	-	-
Other puerperal causes	• •	• •	• •	-	1
Congenital causes	• •	• •	• •	6	1
Senility	n •	• •	• •	8	13
Suicide	• •	• •	• •	-	2
Other violence	• •	• •	• •	4	8
Other defined diseases	• •	• •	• •	25	7
Ill-defined or not known	• •	• •	• •	1	3

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Most of the particulars furnished in previous Annual Reports are still applicable, no special alterations or developments having taken place during the year.

Ambulance: -

Save for an ambulance at the Isolation Hospital the District depends on the facilities afforded in the City of Leicester.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:-

The Medical Officer of Health having acted for the Leicestershire and Rutland Conbined Districts for 37 years will shortly be retired.

The Sanitary Inspector devotes the whole of his time to his official duties.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water: -

Extensions of the Leicester Corporation's mains were made in seven parishes in order to keep pace with building development. The Council's supply at Stoney Stanton is filtered and chlorinated and a chlorination plant has also been installed at Croft.

Ten samples from the pipe-supply and 44 samples of well-water, chiefly from Sharnford, were analysed, 40 of the latter proving unsatisfactory. 32 wells were closed and 14 were cleansed or

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repaired. In 161 instances the public supply was laid on in lieu of well-water.

Bacteriological examinations of the Stoney Stanton supply are now yielding satisfactory results.

Drainage and Sewerage: -

Sewerage extensions have been completed at Enderby, Braunstone, Glen Parva, Glenfield and the Cottage Homesteads, Cosby. Extensions and improvements in sewage disposal have been carried out at Glenfield and also at the Blaby and Whetstone works.

A tender has been accepted for a sewerage scheme for Croft and Huncote. Further schemes are now under consideration and a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held last April concerning sewage disposal extensions for the parishes of Braunstone and Kirby Muxloe.

During the year 129 cesspools were abolished, the drains being connected with the sewer. At the end of 1938 there were 218 in the District.

Closet Accommodation: -

Approximate number in District:-

- (1) Privies (excluding those on farms) 2
- (2) Pail-closets 2,714
- (3) Water-closets 4,794

Pail-closets replaced by water-carriage 59

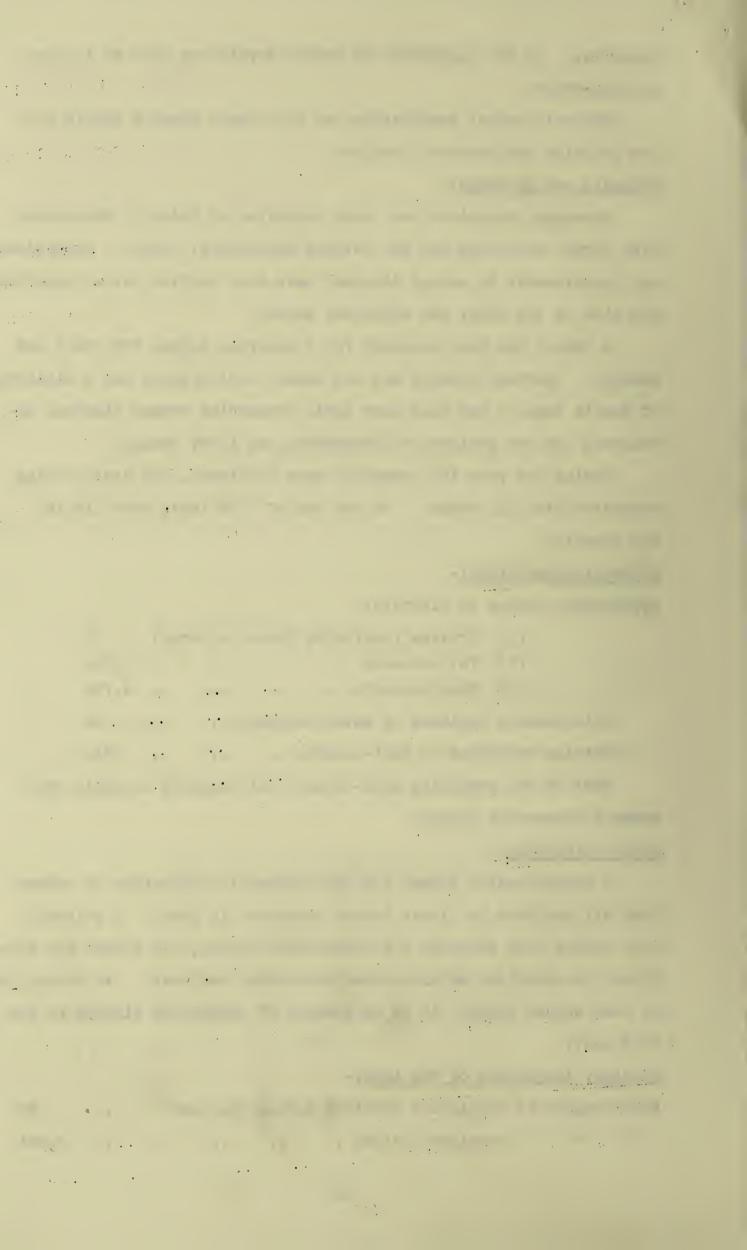
Privies converted to pail-closets Nil

Most of the remaining pail-closets will shortly be dealt with under a conversion scheme.

Public Cleansing: -

A comprehensive scheme for the systematic collection of refuse from all parishes by direct labour commenced in 1936. A suitable site having been selected for controlled tipping, the scheme has continued in excellent working order throughout the year. As stated in my last Annual Report, it is an example of controlled tipping at its very best.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area:-



Total	number	of'	inspecti	ons made	for	all p	ourpos	ses	• •	5,117
17	17	99	defects	or nuisar	nces	disco	vered		• •	353
97	99	88	notices	served -	Stat	utory	5.	Informa	1 353	358
99	11	11	notices	complied	with	1 11	5.	11	519	524
11	11	99	summonse	s issued	• •		• •	• •	• •	Nil

Regulated Buildings: -

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the District, and there are no Canal Boats registered. No offensive Trades are established in the District. There were three Van dwellers in the District, ll inspections being recorded.

Shops and Offices: -

Sanitary conveniences. Defects found 16. Remedied 2. Ventilation. 2. 2.

Camping Sites: -

None in the area and no licences have been issued.

Smoke Abatement: -

There are 35 factory and works chimneys in the District. 16 smoke observations are recorded, better stoking being enjoined where necessary. In one instance a mechanical feeder was installed.

Swimming Baths and Pools:-

None in the District.

Eradication of bed bugs: -

No infested houses were located during the year.

Schools: -

The public elementary schools throughout the District are well maintained and all save Kilby, Sharnford and Thurlaston have a piped supply of water.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

- (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. 1,894

 Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 2,209
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 . . 511

 Number of inspections made for the purpose . . . 704

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	(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	29
	(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	67
2.	Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:- Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	
	or their Officers	373
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-	
	(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
	(a) By Owners	6
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which	
	notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
	(a) By Owners	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
	(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	8
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
	(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	Nil
4.	Housing Act, 1935. Overcrowding.	
	(a) i. Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	24
	ii. Number of families dwelling therein	24
	iii. Number of persons dwelling therein	127
	(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported	1

- (c) i. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ll
 - ii. Number of persons concerned in such cases 74
- (d) Cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil

Six houses have been built by the Council at Stoney Stanton.

INSPECTION and SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk: -

The Sanitary Inspector submits the following particulars for the year:-

Retailers:	No. on Register	• • •	10
(Other than Cow Keepers).	No. of inspections	• • •	47
	No. of contraventions found	••	17
	No. of contraventions remedied	ı	13
Producers:	No. on Register	• • •	177
(including producers who retail their own milk).	No. of inspections of premises	Found	363 Remedied
	No. requiring cleansing	29	26
	No. requiring structural alterations	37	28
	Other contraventions	13	12

Approximate No. of milch cows in District 1,300

Licenses were granted to one Producer and four Retailers of Pasteurized Milk, to one distributor of Tuberculin Tested Milk and to eight distributors of Accredited Milk.

35 Designated milk samples and 140 other samples were submitted for examination at the County Laboratory. Nine of the former and 18 (i.e. 12 per cent) of the latter failed to reach the required degree of bacterial cleanliness.

Unsatisfactory samples are followed up, advice or warning is given and further samples are taken.

Meat and other Foods:-

No. of public abattoirs in district Nil

Private slaughter houses:-	<u>In Jan. 1938.</u>	<u>In Dec. 1938.</u>
No. registered	-	-
No. licenced	23	22

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No. of inspections of premises other than at times of slaughter

172

No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter

53

There are no knacker yards in the District.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,150	27	19	3,347	1,219
Number inspected	419	19	7	611	301
All Diseases except <u>Tuberculosis</u> Whole carcases condemned	-	-	_	1	
Carcases of which some part or organ was comdemned	_	_	_		2
Tuberculosis Only					
Whole carcases comdemned	1	-	-		-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	_	•	_	_	

Meat Shops, Meat Stores etc:-

No. of inspections ..

62

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale:-

No. of inspections

17

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Notifiable Disease.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet fever	43	33	-
Diphtheria	26	24	2
Pneumonia	9	gons	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	3	-
Erysipelas	6	-	
Puerperal pyrexia	4	4	

Two cases of OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM came under observation. The patients who were treated at home recovered with vision unimpaired.

SCARLET FEVER:-

This disease was less prevalent than in 1937, when 50 cases were notified, 85 having been notified in 1936 and 100 in 1935.

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The distribution of the cases was as follows:
Blaby 9, Braunstone 2, Countesthorpe 4, Elmsthorpe 2, Enderby 3,

Glenfields 4, Glen Parva 2, Huncote 1, Kirby Muxloe 2, Littlethorpe

1, Narborough 1, Sapcote 1, Sharnford 1, Stoney Stanton 2, Thurlaston

2, and Whetstone 6. Total 43.

Most of the cases were of a very mild type and all recovered. DIPHTHERIA:-

The notified cases were as follows:
Aston Flamville 1, Blaby 4, Braunstone 3, Cosby 1, Countesthorpe 1,

Glenfields 4, Kirby Muxloe 2, Narborough 1, Littlethorpe 1, Sapcote

2, Sharnford 1, Stoney Stanton 1, Whetstone 3 and Countesthorpe

Early in the year 125 children from several parishes in this District were immunised by the three shot method at South Wigston where they attended school. They were all effectively protected. ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS:-

Two cases were notified at Braunstone and one at Whetstone.

The following table shows the age-distribution of the TUBERCULOSIS cases:-

Cottage Homes 1. Total 26.

	New Cases.			Deaths.				
Age-Periods.	Respir- Non-res- atory. piratory.		Respir- atory.					
	Μ.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-		-	1	-	-	-	1
1 and under 5 years	-	1			-	-	-	-
5 and under 10 years	-	1		-	649	649	-	-
10 and under 15 years	-	-		-	-	=	-	=
15 and under 20 years	2			1	-	-	-	-
20 and under 25 years	2	-			1	1	-	-
25 and under 35 years	2	2	-	-		-	1	-
35 and under 45 years	3	3	-	-	1	-	-	
45 and under 55 years	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 and under 65 years	1	-	-		1	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:-	11	7	-	2	4	1	1	1

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Four of the fatal cases were in Hospitals or Sanatoria.

One fatal case had not been previously notified.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor was any action taken under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

In connection with the diagnosis and supervision of Infectious
Disease the following examinations were made at the County Council's
Laboratory:-

Sputa for Tuberculosis	• •	100
Swabs for Diphtheria	• •	138
Milk examinations (bacteriological)	• •	402
Urine (general and bacteriological)	• •	54
Urine for Tuberculosis	• •	34
Blood for Wasserman test	• •	13
Sewage and water analysis	• •	70
Miscellaneous	• •	9
Tota	1:-	820

In addition to the above, 1,389 swabs for Diphtheria were examined for the Blaby Isolation Hospital.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces:-

1. <u>Inspections:-</u>

Factories (with mechanical power)	Inspections Written notices	101 47
Workshops (without mechanical power)	Inspections Written notices	84 19
Other Premises	Inspections Written notices	49 16
Total:-	Inspections Written notices	234 82

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2. Defects found: -

Nui	sances under the Public Health	Acts:-	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.
	Want of cleanliness	• •	21	18	
	Inadequate ventilation	• •	4	3	-
	Overcrowding	• •	2	2	-
	Ineffective drainage of floor	s , .	2	2	-
	Insufficient Sanitary Accommo	dation	11	8	-
	Unsuitable or Defective Sanita	•	3	3	-
	Not separate for Sexes	• •	5	5	-
	Other Offenses	• •	1	-	1
		Total:-	49	41	1

No instances of Outwork on Unwholesome Premises came under observation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

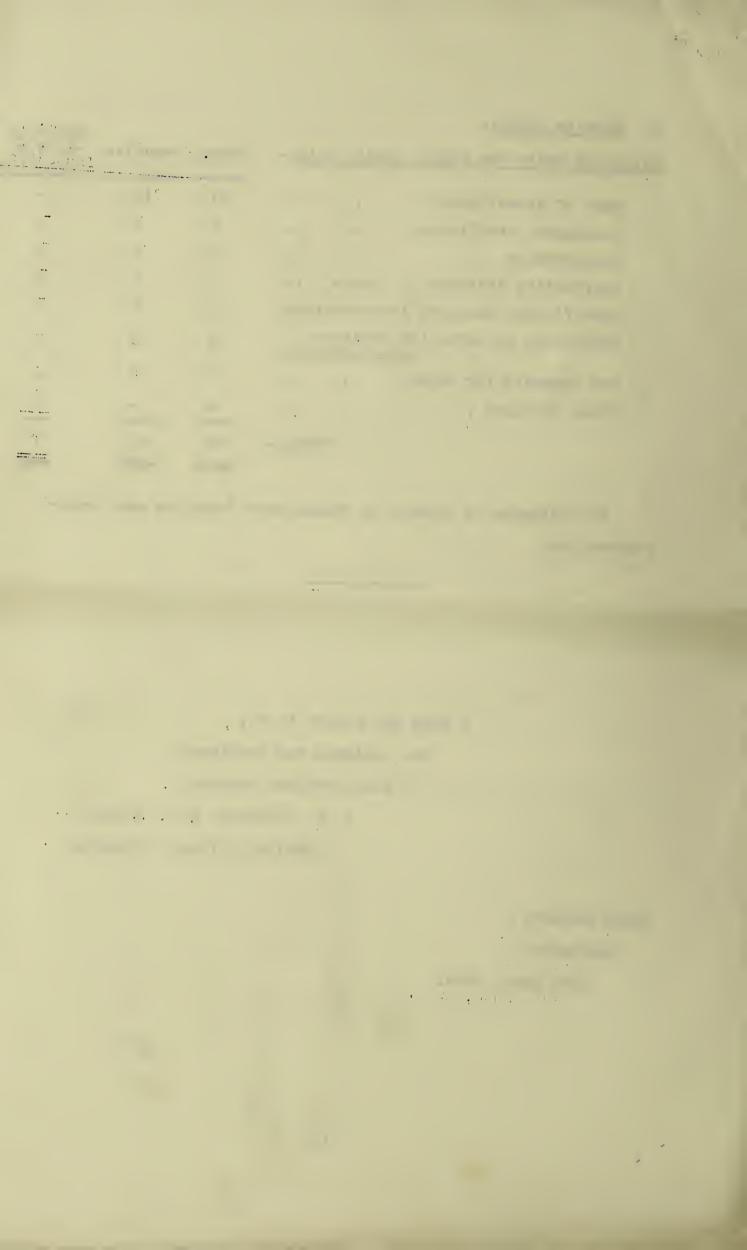
J. E. O'CONNOR, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Kirby Muxloe,

Leicester.

16th June, 1939.



The following examinations were made at the County Council's laboratory:-

Swabs for diphtheria	582
Sputa for Tuberculosis	140
Milk examinations (bacteriological)	3 86
Sewage and water analyses	64
Blood for Wassermann Test	17
Urine (general & Bacteriological)	29
Urine for Tuberculosis	11
Widal test for Typhoid fever	11
Miscellaneous	36
	1,276

Factories, Workshops & Workplaces:-

1. <u>Inspection:-</u>

Factories (with mechanical	l power)	Inspections 200 Written notices 8
Factories (without mechani	cal power)	Inspections 80 Written notices 10
Other premises		Inspections 26 Written notices -
	Total:-	Inspections 306
		Written notices 18

2. Defects found. Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:-

Want of Cleanliness	Found Remedied	3 3
Ineffective drainage of floors	Found Remedied	1
Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences	Found Remedied	5 5
Unsuitable or Defective do:	Found Remedied	7 7
	Found	16
Total:-	Remedied	16

3. Outwork in Unwholesome Premises:-

It was not found necessary to refer any matter to H.M. Inspector.

Kirby Muxloe, Leicester. 5th June 1939. I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,
J. E. O'CONNOR, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,
(until 1st April 1939).

Nil

